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Annual Report

on the

Health

of the

URBAN DISTRICT OF WILLENHALL

for the Year

1959

WILLIAM WOOLLEY LTD., ORCHARD, BILSTON

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Public Health Committee 1959/60

Chairman :
Councillor C. W. Wolverson

Vice-Chairman :
Councillor H. Rudge

Councillor Mrs. L. Reid, J.P.
Councillor J. T. Williams
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Councillor E. J. Clarke
Councillor D. A. Davies
Councillor J. Davis
Councillor R. Griffiths
Councillor A. Webster

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health and Assistant County Medical Officer :
R. C. Gubbins, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Public Health Department, Walsall Street, Willenhall, Staffs.
Tel. No. Willenhall 306

Chief Public Health Inspector :
H. E. T. Lowbridge, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors :
B. M. G. Roger, M.R.S.H.
R. C. Drake, M.R.S.H.
W. E. Jevons, M.R.S.H. Commenced 2nd March, 1959

Pupil Public Health Inspector :
C. A. Andrew

Clerical Staff :
Miss E. G. Duffield
Mrs. M. Robotham
Miss K. Proffitt

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
WALSALL STREET,
WILLENHALL,
STAFFS.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WILLENHALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Madam Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1959.

There was not much variation in the "births and deaths" statistics compared with the previous year, except that the number of still births has increased from 15 to 20. I have had this increase investigated but I can find no common factor, except that all the five births were hospital deliveries (and by that remark I imply nothing !).

It might be worth noting that the number of deaths from road accidents has risen from 2 to 6, and the cases of suicide from 1 to 6. (Is Willenhall becoming a more dangerous place in which to live or wish to live ?).

The anticipated biennial resurgence of measles took place and accounts for the increase in the number of infectious disease notifications. The low prevalence of the other infectious diseases remains much the same.

It is pleasing to note that the Council is keeping its place in the forefront of those Authorities (which isn't all) undertaking energetic activities under the Clean Air Act.

The Department has successfully endeavoured to keep pace with its original programme of slum clearance, and every endeavour will be made to do the same for the programme for the ensuing five years, but the two factors of an all-round increase in public health legislation and a general shortage of qualified Public Health Inspectors may make this difficult.

I must again thank Mr. Lowbridge and all my colleagues for their loyal assistance during the year, and the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support and consideration for myself and the Departmental staff.

I am, Madam Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. C. GUBBINS.
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	2,834
Population :	
(*a*) 1951 Census	30,695
(*b*) Registrar-General's estimate for mid-year 1959	32,050
Population density per acre	11.31
Rateable Value of district at 1.6.59	£368,558
General Rate (1959-1960)	19. 8d.

No. of houses on Rate Book at 1st June, 1959 :

Houses	9,197
Houses and Surgeries	10
Houses and Shops	273
Houses and Offices	9
Houses and Workshops	33
Private Hotels and Guest Houses	6
Licensed Premises	84

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1959

(*Figures in brackets indicate* 1958 *statistics*)

Births

Live Births

	Total	*Males*	*Females*
Legitimate	493	243	250
Illegitimate	12	5	7
TOTAL	505	248	257

Birth Rate per 1,000 population :	15.76
Comparability factor for births :	0.94
Corrected BIRTH RATE :	14.81 (15.05)

Still Births

	Total	*Males*	*Females*
Legitimate	20	11	9
Illegitimate	–	–	–
TOTAL	20	11	9

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births : 39.60 (29.41)
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population : 0.62

Deaths

	Total	*Males*	*Females*
Deaths (all causes)	312	177	135
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population		9.73	
Comparability factor for deaths		1.46	
Corrected DEATH RATE		14.20 (14.24)	
Maternal Deaths		Nil	
MATERNAL DEATH RATE		Nil (Nil)	

Infant Deaths under one year of age

	Total	*Males*	*Females*
Legitimate	10	4	6
Illegitimate	1	–	1
TOTAL	11	4	7

Infant Mortality Rate

Death Rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births 21.78 (25.49)

Infant deaths under 4 weeks of age

	Total	*Males*	*Females*
Legitimate	8	4	4
Illegitimate	–	–	–
TOTAL	8	4	4

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 live births 15.84 (15.69)

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The population of Willenhall as estimated by the Registrar-General was 32,050 ; an increase of 200 compared with the mid-year estimate of 31,850 for 1958. The excess of births over deaths for 1959 was 193, compared with 199 in 1958.

Births

During 1959 there were 505 live births. Of these there were 12 illegitimate births, comprising 2.38% of the total births, compared with 2.35% in 1958.

The birth rate per 1,000 population was 15.76, which is lower than the rate for 1958 which was 16.01. The comparability factor for births is 0.94, which gives a corrected or standardised birth rate of 14.81, which is comparable with a rate of 16.5 for England and Wales.

There were 20 still births in 1959, a percentage of 3.96 of the total births, compared with a percentage of 2.9 in 1958.

The still birth rate expressed per 1,000 total births was 39.60. The rate for England and Wales per 1,000 total (live and still) births was 20.7.

Deaths

There were 312 deaths in 1959. The death rate was 9.73 per 1,000 population, compared with rates of 9.76 and 9.11 for 1958 and 1957 respectively. Applying the comparability factor of 1.46 for deaths to this crude death rate, a standardised or corrected death rate of 14.20 is obtained, which compares with a rate of 14.24 for 1958, and 11.6 for England and Wales.

Deaths from certain causes

The last column of the following table shows the number of deaths from certain causes during the year and a comparison is made with corresponding figures for the previous three years :—

	1956	1957	1958	1959
Cardio-Vascular Diseases	89	92	98	99
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	39	35	49	40
Cancer	58	57	62	44
Bronchitis	19	18	20	23
Pneumonia	14	12	15	18
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	2	4	4

Principal causes of death

The principal causes of death during 1959 were, again, diseases of the heart and bloodvessels (including vascular lesions of the nervous system), cancer and bronchitis.

Diseases of the Heart and Bloodvessels

Diseases of the heart and bloodvessels together accounted for 139 deaths, 44.55% of the total deaths, compared with 47.26% of the total deaths in 1958.

Cancer

Cancer caused 44 deaths compared with 62 in the preceding year. In the ten-year period 1950-1959 deaths from cancer averaged 51 annually. Of these 44 cancer deaths, 11 were due to cancer of the stomach, 18 to cancer of the lung and bronchus (compared with 19 in 1958 and 10 in 1957) 4 to cancer of the breast, and 11 to cancer of other sites, the total being approximately 14.10% of the total deaths.

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis again caused 4 deaths during the year, all of which were due to the pulmonary form of the disease (as in 1958).

Deaths from Violent causes

There were 20 deaths from violent causes, 6 of which were due to motor vehicle accidents, 6 to other accidents, 7 to suicide and 1 to homicide. This is over twice as many deaths, in this category, as last year (i.e. 9), due mainly to more deaths from motor vehicle accidents and 5 more cases of suicide.

Age at Death

Of the total deaths recorded 180 or 57% occurred in persons aged 65 years and over, compared with 63% in 1958.

Infant Mortality

There were 11 deaths of infants under one year, this being slightly lower than last years total of 13. There was 1 illegitimate death. The infant mortality rate for the year was 21.78 compared with a rate of 25.49 in 1958 and 19.45 in 1957. This rate of 21.78 compares with a rate of 22.0 for England and Wales.

Of these 11 deaths occurring under one year, 8 did not survive beyond the first month of life, the neo-natal mortality rate thus being 15.84, compared with 15.69 in 1958.

This rate of 15.84 compares with a rate of 15.8 for England and Wales.

Reference to Table IV on page 34 shows the causes of infant deaths at different age periods under one year. The commonest cause of infant deaths was cerebral haemorrhage, an extraordinary increase over the one case due to this cause last year.

Maternal Mortality

There were again no maternal deaths in 1959.

SECTION B

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND OTHER DISEASES

There were 413 notifications of infectious disease other than tuberculosis during the year, the general incidence being considerably higher than the previous year when notifications numbered 104.

The increase was due mainly to the MEASLES notifications which increased from 68 in 1958 to 383 in 1959.

Whooping Cough

These notifications numbered the same as last year—2, compared with 20 in 1957 and 101 in 1956.

Pneumonia

There was a decrease of one in these notifications, from 16 in 1958 to 15 in 1959.

Scarlet Fever

These notifications also decreased from 11 in 1958 to 6 in 1959.

Other notifications included 1 case of dysentery, 4 cases of food poisoning, and 2 cases of puerperal pyrexia.

There were again no cases of confirmed diphtheria, this being the seventh consecutive year in which no case has been notified.

Influenza

There were 6 deaths from this cause during 1959, compared with 1 in the previous year.

Tuberculosis

At the end of 1959 the number of cases of tuberculosis on the register was as follows :—

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	249	173	422
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	36	34	70

During the year 17 names were removed from the register for the following reasons :—

Recovered	8
Diagnosis not confirmed	1
Died	5
Left the District	3

There were 16 new cases of tuberculosis in 1959, compared with 19 in 1958, and 27 in 1957. All of these 16 new cases were of the pulmonary form.

In the ten-year period 1950-1959 notifications of tuberculosis averaged 30 annually.

There were 4 deaths from this cause, giving a death rate per 1,000 population of 0.12.

The Table on page 36 shows the new cases notified and the deaths from this disease for the past 40-odd years.

SECTION C.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Local "Health Authority" Services

These are provided by the Staffordshire County Council and comprise the following :—

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children
2. Midwifery
3. Health Visiting
4. Home Nursing
5. Vaccination and Immunisation
6. Ambulance Services
7. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care
8. Domestic Help
9. Mental Health.

For the purpose of administering the above services, the County is divided into nine "areas," with an Area Medical Officer advising each Area Committee. Willenhall is a constituent authority of No. 9 Area, which also includes the Boroughs of Bilston and Wednesbury and the Urban Districts of Darlaston and Wednesfield, and has a total population of approximately 152,120. This Local Authority has three representatives on the Area Committee.

The local provisions of the above enumerated services are as follows :—

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children

Ante-Natal Clinics. There are two sessions per week, one is held at the Clinic, Walsall Street, on Friday afternoons, and the other is held at the New Clinic, Bloxwich Road North, Short Heath, on Tuesday afternoons—the first session being held on Tuesday, 16th June, 1959.

Infant Welfare Clinics. There are three Infant Welfare Clinics, as follows :—

Walsall Street Clinic—Wednesday afternoons.

New Clinic, Bloxwich Road North—Friday afternoons, first session 5th June, 1959.

Portobello Clinic, 10, Arnhem Road—1st and 3rd Thursday afternoon of each month.

The New Clinic, Bloxwich Road North, was officially opened by the Chairman of the Council, Councillor J. T. Williams, J.P., on 18th November, 1959.

Clinics for School Children. Minor ailment clinics are held at the Clinic, Walsall Street, on Monday and Friday mornings. A doctor attends on Mondays. Such clinics are also held at Short Heath on Friday mornings, a doctor attending alternate weeks. An Eye Clinic is held at the Walsall Street Clinic on Thursday mornings.

Day Nurseries. There is one Day Nursery in the district at the Memorial Park, with accommodation for fifty children.

2. Midwifery

At 31st December, 1959, there were four domiciliary midwives employed by the Staffordshire County Council practising in the district. Hospital accommodation is arranged by either the General Practitioners or the Medical Officer attending the ante-natal clinics—on medical grounds ; or by the local Health Visitors—on sociological grounds.

3. Health Visiting

There were four Health Visitors working in the district at 31st December, 1959. These ladies also attend the various "County" clinics. Their headquarters are at the Clinic, Walsall Street, Willenhall.

4. Home Nursing

There are four District Nurses operating in the district, the functions of the Willenhall District Nursing Association in respect of home nursing having been taken over by the County Council since 1948.

5. Vaccination and Immunisation

Vaccination is usually carried out by the local General Practitioners. Immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough is performed at the Infant Welfare Clinics each week, mostly on children between the ages of three to twelve months old.

Immunisation of school children against diphtheria (the large majority of whom have already been immunised) is carried out at special school sessions, at fairly regular intervals, by County Council Medical Officers. Reinforcing doses are given at the ages of five and ten years at these school sessions.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis for the 15-26 age group was commenced during 1959.

6. Ambulance Services

Ambulance facilities for this area are available at the Main Ambulance Station, Richards Street, Darlaston. The telephone number is James Bridge 2591/2, and a 24-hour service is available.

7. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Care and After-Care is undertaken by a Social Worker and an Area Welfare Officer, both centred on Wolverhampton. The former attends to such matters as the provision of convalescent home treatment, extra nourishment, clothing, financial help, etc., whilst the latter official is more directly concerned in the care of the aged and infirm, and also works in co-operation with voluntary agencies for the care of the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, for whom there are training facilities and workshops, etc., at Wolverhampton and Walsall. Hostels for the aged are provided by the County Council at Lichfield and Cannock. The basic principle of all these services —i.e. *prevention* of illness—is manifested in the work of the Health Visitors.

8. Domestic Help

A Home Help Service is available and administered by the Area Medical Officer, 20 Hydes Road, Wednesbury, telephone number Wednesbury 0961/2. The Service is available for cases of illness, confinement, expectant mothers, mentally defective and aged persons. The number of home helps in the "area" at 31st December, 1959, was 75, of whom 23 were resident in Willenhall.

9. Mental Health

The Area Health Committee maintains a Special Training Centre at Bilston which is available to Willenhall children who are considered ineducable at school. There is also a Practical Training Centre at Shepwell Green, Willenhall, for children of higher age groups.

Other Health Services are as follows :—

Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological examinations required by General Practitioners and by the Public Health Department are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Martin Street, Stafford. Chemical examinations—food, water, etc.—are undertaken by the County Analyst, County Buildings, Stafford.

Hospitals

There are no hospitals within the Urban District, but the following is a list of hospitals available to the inhabitants, which, with the exception of the Kingswinford Isolation Hospital, are situated within a distance of three miles from the Urban District :—

Infectious Diseases	Moxley Isolation Hospital, Wednesbury (including Smallpox). Kingswinford Isolation Hospital.
General	Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton. New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton. General Hospital, Walsall. Manor Hospital, Walsall. Eye Infirmary, Wolverhampton.
Maternity	Manor Hospital, Walsall. New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton. Women's Hospital, Wolverhampton.

Accident Prevention

Publicity for the prevention of accidents in the home continues as in previous years by the display of posters in the clinics and elsewhere.

SECTION D

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

During the year no action was taken under Section 47 of the above Act.

SECTION E.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Water Supply

The Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking supplies water to the area, which has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Chemical and bacteriological examination of samples of water from sources of distribution to the area and from houses in the district have given satisfactory results.

The water has no plumbo-solvent action.

Summary of Results of Bacteriological Examinations

Total Number of Samples taken	Presumptive Coli-Aerogenes per 100 ml.			
	0	1-2	3-10	Over 10
366	339	11	10	6

Figures are not available giving the proportion of dwelling houses supplied direct from the mains, as apart from those supplied by standpipes.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

No developments of note have been completed during the year in connection with drainage and sewage disposal.

Health in Factories

The return made on Form 572 in respect of Part I and VIII of the Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948 is reproduced at the back of this report.

SECTION F.

HOUSING

The Housing Manager has kindly provided the following information :—

Number of dwellings built and completed by Local Authority during the year	72
Number of houses completed by private persons	42
Number of dwellings completed under Post-War Housing Programme by the end of 1959	1,907
Total number of Council dwellings in district by the end of 1959	3,944
Number of families rehoused because of overcrowding	12
Number of families rehoused because of tuberculosis	1
Number of families rehoused from houses upon which a demolition order was operative	59
Number of families rehoused from Clearance Areas	

The Council's points scheme for the allocation of houses makes allowance for the consideration of medical conditions in awarding points, and in this connection close co-operation was maintained with the Housing Manager. If applicant or member of his family was suffering from active tuberculosis, and housing conditions were unsatisfactory, priority in rehousing was given. Each case was considered separately, on its merits.

SECTION G.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS

Details of the work done during the year in connection with Meat and Other Foods is given in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Food Poisoning

There were 4 notifications of food poisoning during the year :—

(*a*)	Total number of outbreaks	1
(*b*)	Number of cases	4
(*c*)	Number of deaths	Nil
(*d*)	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks attributable to each	? Cl. Welchii.
(*e*)	Foods involved, with number of outbreaks associated with each food	? Veal.

The above 4 cases occurred in one family, and veal was the only suspect food. From the time between taking the food and the onset of symptoms it is probable that Cl. Welchii as the organism and veal as the agent were the factors concerned, but notification was too late for any specimen to be taken.

Another short outbreak of poisoning concerned this Authority (in the person of myself) although all the notifications occurred in a neighbouring Authority, the source of the infection arose from dinners cooked in a local school. This was a typical case of infection arising from the *slow* cooling of cooked meat which was not placed in a refrigerator overnight, and—again—the organism responsible was Cl. Welchii.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
WALSALL STREET,
WILLENHALL,
STAFFS.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WILLENHALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Madam Chairman and Members,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my twelfth annual report on the work of the Public Health Inspectorate.

The year has been one of considerable activity. For many years slum clearance has been one of the principal aspects of work in the Department and the year 1959 saw a continuation of this work. During the year 181 houses were represented to the Health Committee with a view to demolition. Although the five year programme of slum clearance has a year to run, there is little doubt that as far as the Health Department is concerned, the programme will be completed. It is unlikely, however, because of difficulties in house-building that the tenants from all the houses in the five year programme will be re-housed by that time.

Progress towards clean air has continued during the year—the Council have now made Orders covering approximately 2,000 premises. During the year, the Council was required by the Minister of Housing and Local Government to formulate a programme of future action to make the whole of the district smokeless in accordance with the Beaver Report and the Clean Air Act. Given the requisite staff this could be achieved by about the year 1972.

A useful addition to legislation during the year was the introduction of the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. Part II of the Act provides a new system of standard grants to supplement the existing discretionary grants. Standard grants are specially intended to help the modernisation of houses which can be equipped with certain standard amenities, e.g. a bath, W.C., wash-basin, hot water system or foodstore, without the necessity for structural alterations involving much new building work. There is considerable scope for the application of these grants to houses in Willenhall and the Department is only too pleased to encourage owners to avail themselves of the provisions of the Act whenever possible.

An important step forward towards the complete abolition of the insanitary waste water closets was made during the year when the Council decided to make a contribution towards the cost of converting waste water closets to wash-down closets.

In the sphere of food inspection, 100% meat inspection has been maintained. In connection with the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, contact has been made with the local butchers to ascertain their views with regard to slaughtering. The indications are that there will be some reduction in the number of slaughterhouses.

In presenting this report, I wish to record the assistance I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Clerk of the Council and Officials of other Council Departments, the Medical Officer of Health, Mr. B. Roger and the Inspectorial staff and to Miss E. Duffield and the Clerical staff.

I am, Madam Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant,

H. E. T. LOWBRIDGE.
Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

The Council continued its progress during the year in the removal of unfit houses under the five year programme.

The programme provides for the demolition of 650 houses in five years. Consideration is being given to the forming of a programme to continue the existing one and is aimed at the complete abolition of unfit houses in the district.

At present the Council allocate 75% of Council houses which are available to slum clearance. This proportion has operated since November, 1957. Previous to deciding upon that ratio, the Council decided in 1948, to allocate one in four Council houses for slum clearance re-housing. In September, 1955, this proportion was increased to 50%.

The following table is given to enable an opinion to be formed upon the progress of slum clearance :—

Year	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	Total
Demolition Orders made	5	6	9	17	12	21	60	40	15	39	13	24	16	277
Closing Orders made	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	7	1	1	8	18	12	51
Undertakings	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	10	29	18	17	78
Clearance Areas	—	—	—	17	—	—	46	—	—	114	19	47	88	331
Slum Clearance Rehousing :														
Council-owned	—	—	—	—	—	9	42	8	7	11	17	2	—	96
Private	7	27	14	13	28	35	40	30	29	38	97	82	58	498
Demolished	6	46	7	8	32	18	70	53	34	24	25	114	48	485
Houses built :														
Council	62	130	72	60	176	207	227	165	123	95	261	95	72	1745
Private	—	—	12	12	13	31	28	64	62	76	112	12	42	464

The following table gives details of Clearance Areas represented and approved by the Council since 1946. Those marked* have not yet been confirmed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government :—

Area	Houses	Tenants re-housed (houses)	Become void	Demolished
Chapel Green (No. 1) 1950	17	17	—	17
Portobello (No. 1) C.P.O. 1953	46	43	2	44
Bloxwich Road South (No. 1) 1956	13	10	2	12
Portobello (No. 2) C.P.O. 1956	101	84	3	36
Portobello (No. 1) Clearance Order, 1957.....	4	4	—	—
Gomer Street West Clearance Order, 1957	15	9	—	—
Gomer Street West C.P.O. 1957	47	14	—	—
Orchard Road Clearance Order, 1959	4	1	1	—
Birmingham Street Clearance Order 1959	5	—	—	—
Chapel Green (No. 2) Clearance Order 1959	43	—	—	—
Mill Street (No. 1) Clearance Order 1959	36	—	—	—
*Froysell Street (No. 1) Clearance Order 1959	14	—	—	—
*Froysell Street (No. 2) Clearance Order 1959	31	—	—	—
*Church Street (No. 1) Clearance Order 1959	23	—	—	—
*Bloxwich Road South (No. 2) Clearance Order 1959	7	—	—	—
*Spring Bank (No. 1) Clearance Order 1959	62	—	—	—
*Spring Bank (No. 2) Clearance Order 1959	6	—	—	—
*Bloxwich Road South (No. 3) Clearance Order 1959	4	—	—	—

During the year the following action was taken with regard to removal of unfit houses :—

	Houses
Demolition Orders made	16
Closing Orders made	12
Undertakings signed by owners in lieu of Demolition or Closing Orders	17
Clearance Orders confirmed by Ministry	88
Number of privately owned houses which were subject to Demolition, Closure or Clearance Orders and the tenants re-housed	58
Dwelling Houses demolished	48
Persons displaced and re-housed	178

The Clearance Areas which were confirmed during the year and are referred to in the above table, were at Birmingham Street, Mill Street and Chapel Green.

It will also be noted that during the year representations were made concerning Clearance Areas at :—

Spring Bank (N. 1)	62 houses
Spring Bank (No. 2)	6 ,,
Bloxwich Road (No. 2)	7 ,,
Bloxwich Road (No. 3)	4 ,,
Froysell Street (No. 1)	14 ,,
Froysell Street (No. 2)	31 ,,
Church Street (No. 1)	23 ,,

Rent Act, 1957

The following is a statement of action taken during the years 1957, 1958 and 1959 :—

	1957	1958	1959
Applications from tenants for Certificates of Disrepair	63	42	21
Notices of proposal to issue Certificates of Disrepair	48	52	21
Refusals	1	—	—
Withdrawn	2	2	—
Undertakings to carry out repair received from landlords	12	31	13
Certificates Issued	21	38	8

Improvement Grants

Discretionary Grants

The Department has participated with the Engineer and Surveyor in considering applications for discretionary grants for improvements to houses. Eight applications were dealt with.

Standard Grants

During the year the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, was passed and the Council made the Health Department responsible for supervising the work. Among the important provisions was the setting-up of a new system of standard grants to supplement the improvement grants paid at the discretion of the local authority.

A feature of this new system of grants, designed to improve houses, is that these grants are payable only in respect of the provision of specified standard amenities and provided certain conditions are satisfied, the owner of the property can claim the grant as of right.

The five standard amenities eligible for standard grants are :—

(*a*) A fixed bath or shower in a bathroom
(*b*) A wash-hand basin
(*c*) A hot water supply
(*d*) A water closet in or contiguous to the building
(*e*) Satisfactory facilities for storing food.

There are many houses in the district which need to be provided with one, two or all of these amenities. It should be noted that the provision of these amenities is optional on the part of the owner. The local authority have no power to enforce the provision of these amenities.

During the year approval was given to 2 applications for standard grants.

Intimations and Abatement Notices served

During the year, 257 Intimations were served for defects listed in Table X. It was necessary to serve 39 Abatement Notices following non-compliance with Intimations.

Disinfection and Disinfestation

The Thresh Steam Disinfector situated at the Sewage Works was in use on 14 days during the year to steam disinfest bedding, in conjunction with the treatment of furniture by Hydrogen Cyanide before the removal of 30 families to Council houses.

The treatment of furniture and effects with H.C.N. is carried out by a private company, whilst the bedding from the house from which the furniture is removed is steam disinfested. The operation of the disinfection and disinfestation service as well as the rodent service and the spraying of houses and other premises for vermin, is carried out by two workmen attached to the Department.

During the year, 12 private and 41 Council houses were treated by the Department with insecticide to destroy vermin including fleas, bugs, cockroaches, ants, mites, etc. The corresponding number of premises treated during the previous year were 14 private and 15 Council houses.

Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures

The position with regard to caravans has been similar to previous years. Waste pieces of land are likely to be inhabited at any time by nomads, land at Bentley Lane and Noose Lane has been particularly attractive to these visitors.

During the year, the Council gave permission for three caravans to be stationed at Bloxwich Road South, Pooles Lane and Lucknow Road.

In the year 53 letters and notices were sent to occupiers of unlicensed caravans.

Houses let-in-lodgings and Coloured People

A number of the larger and older houses in the district have, during the last few years, become occupied by coloured persons.

The houses are mostly occupied by individual persons rather than whole families. The houses are usually purchased by one or more coloured persons and the rooms are let, primarily, to individuals as furnished accommodation at a weekly rental. In a report to the Health Committee upon twenty houses which have become occupied by coloured persons, it was pointed out that there is a wide variation in the cleanliness of these premises. Deficiency in hygienic matters usually takes the form of failure to keep windows clean, and to open the curtains first thing in the morning to let light into the rooms ; failure to understand the need for placing of refuse in dust bins but rather to scatter it over the yard surfaces ; lack of proper care with W.C's. and sanitary fittings.

As well as a failure to open the windows during the daytime to ventilate the rooms, there is a noticeable inclination to overcrowd rooms. Under Section 6 of the Housing Act, 1936, local authorities had power to make a bye-law requiring the registration of houses let-in-lodgings ; this section was repealed by Section 54 of the Fifth Schedule of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

A local authority must now rely upon such knowledge as that obtained by Public Health Inspectors in their inspection of the district to know of the existence of houses occupied in the manner described.

FOOD PREMISES

Slaughterhouses and Slaughtering

The slaughterhouses which have been licensed are the same as in the previous year and are as follows :—

3, Fletchers Lane
134, Bloxwich Road South
119, High Road
17, Market Place
19, Market Place
2, High Street, Portobello.

In the case of 17 and 19, Market Place, the slaughterhouses are for pig slaughtering only. At both these premises no slaughtering has taken place during the year. The slaughterhouse at No. 2, High Street, Portobello, is situated in an area subject to a confirmed Compulsory Purchase Order, the licence is issued for periods of six months, thus enabling it to be used until the land upon which it stands is required for re-development.

To enable a report to be prepared, inspections of existing slaughterhouses and interviews with interested butchers have been made as required under the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

Meat Inspection

During the year 849 visits were made to slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspection. Overtime has had to be worked caused by the late time of commencement of slaughtering. The number of animals slaughtered was :—

550 Cattle—excluding cows
9 Cows
5 Calves
4,665 Sheep
1,585 Pigs

The quantity of meat surrendered at the slaughterhouses as being unfit for human consumption was :—

16 cwts. 2 qrs. 9½ lbs.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

This Act, as amended by the Slaughter of Animals (Pigs) Act, 1953, and the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954, requires persons slaughtering animals to hold a licence expiring yearly. Licences are required to specify the kinds of animals which may be slaughtered or stunned, and the types of instruments which may be used for the purpose. The Slaughter of Animals (Pigs) Act, 1953, requires pigs exceeding twelve weeks in age to be slaughtered by humane methods, wherever they may be slaughtered.

There are 17 slaughtermen now licensed.

Inspection of Other Foods

336 visits were made to food shops and stores for the purpose of examining food ; 417 tins of food were condemned as unfit for human consumption having a total weight of 6 cwts. 0 qrs. 14 lbs.

Other foods examined and subsequently condemned were cheese, sweets, mincemeat, puddings, fats and steakettes, etc., having a total weight of 1 cwt. 2qrs. $26\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

Milk

The following licences for the sale of designated milk were issued during the year :—

Dealers' Licences	*Supplementary Licences*
89 Sterilised	6 Tuberculin Tested
22 Pasteurised	6 Sterilised
9 Tuberculin Tested	6 Pasteurised
1 Channel Island	

Ice-Cream

The results of samples of Ice-Cream taken during the year continue to remain at the satisfactory standard previously attained.

Additional legislation, i.e. The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1959, came into effect in the early part of the year—this consolidated and amended previous legislation. They require that ingredients used in the manufacture of Ice-Cream are to be pasteurised by one or other of three specified methods or sterilised and thereafter kept at a low temperature until the freezing process is begun.

The Regulations make it an offence to sell or offer for sale Ice-Cream which has not been so treated or which has been allowed to reach a temperature exceeding 28°F. without again being treated.

They exempt from the requirement certain types of water ices and ice lollies which are sufficiently acid to make such treatment unnecessary. Samples of ice lollies taken by this Department have been satisfactory.

The improvement since the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations came into operation is evident from an examination of the following table :—

		Grade			
		1	2	3	4
1948—No. of samples taken—	85	27	11	19	28
1949— ,,	128	67	29	17	15
1950— ,,	190	116	38	21	15
1951— ,,	89	48	27	5	9
1952— ,,	91	49	32	6	4
1953— ,,	86	61	22	2	1
1954— ,,	78	74	2	1	1
1955— ,,	49	46	2	0	1
1956— ,,	85	79	4	1	1
1957— ,,	77	68	2	1	6
1958— ,,	68	59	5	0	4
1959— ,,	89	84	3	1	1

Provisional gradings	*Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue Test*
1	4 hours or more
2	$2\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 hours
3	$\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 hours
4	0 hours.

Grades 1 and 2 are considered satisfactory and Grades 3 and 4 unsatisfactory.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

Satisfactory progress continues to be made under the provisions of the above Regulations and once again I would like to thank the food traders of the town for their co-operation.

It should be appreciated, however, that the necessity for routine inspections of food premises has not in any way been lessened on the strength of past improvements carried out, as there is always a constant deterioration of premises and equipment.

In addition to the material changes mentioned, an important factor often overlooked, is the continual movement and change of management and staff within the food trades—the newcomers and inexperienced, of necessity, needing explanation of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

As previously reported, a towable mobile ablution unit has been provided which is positioned near the clock tower for the use of market stall-holders on market days and it is gratifying to note that it is well used considering the impracticability of providing a site central to all stall-holders.

It has not been necessary during the past year to seek legal proceedings in order to ensure compliance with these Regulations.

I list below particulars of improvements effected under the 1955 Regulations during the year :—

Improvements	*Premises affected*
New chopping blocks provided	2
New cutting boards provided	4
Preparation tables or counters covered with an impervious material	7
Walls redecorated	11
Ceilings redecorated	11
Floors renewed	1
Wash-hand basins provided	3
Sinks provided	2
Hot water supply (provision of)	4
Hot water supply (repairs)	2
Provision of extraction fans for removing effluvia	1
Provision of ventilated space between W.C. and preparation room	1
Provision of additional artificial lighting	2
Fly-proofing of storerooms, etc.	2
First-Aid kits supplied or renewed	6
Provision made for staff clothing accommodation	2
Miscellaneous improvements	21

Types of Food Premises

The number and nature of food premises in the district is summarised as follows :—

37 Butchers
170 Grocers
26 Greengrocers
2 Greengrocers and wet fish
3 Cafes and Confectioners
4 Cafes and General Shops
10 Confectioners
12 Fried Fish Shops
83 Licensed Premises
25 Works Canteens
5 School Kitchens

Inspections were made of the above in an effort to raise standards of hygiene in respect of buildings, equipment and methods of handling.

Registration of Hawkers

The provisions of the Willenhall U.D.C. Act, 1939, require the registration of any persons carrying on the trade of hawker and also the registration of premises from which the trade is carried on.

During the year 1 hawker was registered. The present number of hawkers registered in the district is 26.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The Council gave consideration to the payment of a grant towards the abolition of waste water closets and decided to make a contribution of half the sum involved in converting in the first instance, 25 waste water closets. This work to be done by the Council after inviting tenders. Arrangements to convert these closets were in hand at the end of the year. In isolated instances, where the owner desired to make a conversion, the Council also agreed to the payment of a grant.

The following table shows the progress made in the abolition of this type of closet :—

1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
39	43	76	101	92	59	67	17	39	13	23	12	7

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Following the coming into operation of the Willenhall (No. 1) Smoke Control Area on 1st October, 1958, the Council, during the year under review, made further Smoke Control Areas. Four areas came into operation during the year and one came into operation on 1st January, 1960.

The details of the Smoke Control Areas are as follows :—

Willenhall	(No. 1)	S.C.A.	New Invention	419 houses and Flats
,,	(No. 2)	,,	High Street	54 Flats
,,	(No. 3)	,,	Clarkes Lane	42 Flats
,,	(No. 4)	,,	Greader Street	28 Flats
,,	(No. 5)	,,	Wood Lane	523 houses and Flats
,,	(No. 6)	,,	Lichfield Road	500 Houses
,,	(No. 7)	,,	Pooles Lane	130 Houses

Although it can be said that there is now not the same antagonism towards the burning of smokeless fuel that there was when the first Smoke Control Area came into operation, it was necessary to prosecute two householders for burning coal in the No. 1 Smoke Control Area. Both were conditionally discharged on payment of 4/-d. costs.

In addition to continuing the policy of making a Smoke Control Area on all new private and Council-owned estates before occupation of the houses commences, approval in principle was obtained to an area of 130 houses comprising about half pre-war and half post-war houses at Pooles Lane and Wood Lane.

In response to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 5/59 the Council formulated its programme of Smoke Control Area activity over the period from now to 1972.

Although the map of the proposals to eventually make Willenhall smokeless cannot for practical reasons be reproduced here, it may be mentioned that by reason of there being considerable new development in the northern portion of the district—and the larger Smoke Control Areas are already situated there—it is proposed to work from there towards the centre and southern portion of the district. Another factor is that the heavier and so it happens, dirtier industries are situated in or near the town centre. Some industrialists have taken steps to modernise their plants to enable the provisions of the Clean Air Act to be complied with ; others have not yet done all that can be done. An added and more telling factor in not yet proceeding to make the centre of the town a Smoke Control Area, is that there is still considerable slum clearance and redevelopment to be carried out.

When attending meetings and conferences connected with Clean Air, one notices a tendency for speakers to dwell upon the smoke from industrial boiler plants, and, whilst there are a considerable number of boiler plants in the district, the emission of smoke from these plants is now comparatively little. With few exceptions these plants, where coal is used, are equipped with automatic stokers and other plants are provided with oil firing.

The main causes of pollution in this district now arise from foundries and furnaces other than boiler furnaces and, of course, domestic chimneys.

Frequent trouble is experienced, too, with small space heating stoves which are placed usually in the middle of floors in small factories and workshops. There is little trouble if coke is used, but where coal is used for starting and firing the stove throughout the day they are frequently a nuisance to nearby houses. The chimneys to these stoves are usually very short.

During the year 12 notifications were received as required under Section 3, Sub-section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956. Under this section, in addition to notifying the installation of new furnaces, there is a requirement in the Clean Air Act that no furnaces shall be installed in a building or in any boiler or industrial plant attached to a building or for the time being fixed to or installed on any land, unless it is so far as practicable capable of being operated continuously without emitting smoke when burning fuel of a type for which the furnace was designed, and any person who installs a furnace in contravention of this sub-section shall be guilty of an offence.

No application was received during the year to install furnaces in accordance with plans and specifications in accordance with Section 3(2) of the Clean Air Act. This Section refers to prior approval by the local authority before a furnace is installed.

Height of Chimneys—Section 10

This section imposes on local authorities an obligation that, where any plans deposited in accordance with building bye-laws show that it is proposed to construct a chimney for carrying smoke, grit, dust and gases from the building, the authorities must satisfy themselves about the height of the chimney. In two instances, both oil-fired appliances, industrialists were required to raise the chimney to a height higher than that which they intended when the plans were submitted.

Atmospheric Pollution Recording Apparatus

The Council have, in conjunction with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, continued to operate atmospheric pollution recording apparatus. Nine lead peroxide gauges are situated in various parts of the district. A deposit gauge is installed on a roof at the rear of the Gas Offices, Market Place. A deposit gauge is also sited at the works of Messrs. John Harper & Co. Ltd. In addition to the gauges already mentioned, a lead peroxide gauge and a daily volumetric recording apparatus are provided by John Harper & Co. Ltd. at their works. The thanks of the Council are again due to Messrs. John Harper & Co. Ltd., for their continued practical assistance in the analysis of the atmospheric pollution instruments.

Gauge Readings

The following are readings of the gauges in the Market Place and Clarkes Lane for ten completed years :—

	Average total soluble and insoluble matter in tons per square mile		
	Market Place	*Clarkes Lane*	
1950	31.21	33.55	per month
1951	27.39	31.265	,,
1952	22.64	24.29	,,
1953	21.74	16.53	,,
1954	20.08	15.73	,,
1955	19.536	17.48	,,
1956	17.72	13.245	,,
1957	15.425	13.046	,,
1958	20.179	21.305	,,
1959	23.88	20.04	,,

FACTORIES

During the year there were 118 inspections of factories and 9 Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. There are 313 factories in the district. A wide variety of articles are manufactured in the district including locks, drop forgings, brass and malleable iron castings.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act, which came into operation in April, 1952, aims at securing that all animals, birds and fishes, shall be kept in suitable premises, that they shall be properly fed, that they shall not be sold at too early an age, that precautions shall be taken to prevent the spread of disease, and that suitable steps will be taken to prevent injury in the case of fire.

The Council have registered 1 shop.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

There do not appear to be any premises for the manufacture of furniture, bedding, toys, etc. (in which filling is used), neither are there premises where filling is manufactured. There are, therefore, no premises subject to registration or annual licensing. There are eight premises concerned with the furniture trade where filling is used or sold.

SWIMMING BATHS

During the season in which the Baths were open, samples of swimming bath water were taken and submitted to Chemical and Bacteriological examination.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Two men continue to carry out rodent work as well as disinfestation and disinfection duties. To keep the rat population in check it is necessary for treatment to be carried out expeditiously when complaints are made. The two rodent men employed in the Department are in a position to deal with complaints promptly.

The treatment of dwelling houses is carried out without charge and this encourages prompt notification by occupiers. The treatment of business premises is carried out after the proprietor has agreed to pay the cost of time and materials. Although dwelling houses can be treated expeditiously, the same cannot always be said for business premises. Most proprietors are agreeable to paying for treatment ; some others prefer to take time to think about it. Some concerns engage private firms who undertake routine treatment as well as treatment upon complaint. During the year 71 treatments were carried out at business premises, for which £100. 3s. 0d. was received.

Attention was given during the year to Sewers, Refuse Tips, and the River Tame.

"Warfarin" bait has been used on dwellings and business premises. With this bait there is no necessity for prebaiting and the risk to human beings on bait being accidentally eaten is negligible. Because of the damp conditions it is not, however, suitable for sewer treatment and zinc or arsenic have been used.

I wish to pay tribute to Mr. R. Walton, the Rodent Operator, for the efficient manner in which he carried out his duties.

A summary of the work carried out is given below, whilst a detailed report is given at the end of the report.

All Premises		12 *months* *to* 31.3.59	9 *months* *to* 31.12.59
Inspections	Notified	199	181
	Surveys	484	410
Infested with	Rats	142	133
	Mice	74	57
Revisits		1,610	1,063
Prebaits laid for rats		609	535
Poison bait takes		528	608
Poison baits laid for mice		1,775	1,039

Table I.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1959

	WILLENHALL	ENGLAND AND WALES
	Rates per 1,000 Home Population	
Births		
Live Births	14.81	16.5
Still births	0.62	21.0 (*a*)
Deaths		
All Causes	14.20	11.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	
Whooping Cough	—	
Diphtheria	—	
Tuberculosis	0.12	
Influenza	0.19	
Smallpox	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	—	
Pneumonia	0.56	
Notifications (*Corrected*) **Case Rates**		
Typhoid Fever	—	
Paratyphoid Fever	—	
Meningococcal Infection	—	
Scarlet Fever	0.19	
Whooping Cough	0.06	
Diphtheria	—	
Erysipelas	—	
Smallpox	—	
Measles	11.95	
Pneumonia	0.47	
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)		
Paralytic	—	
Non-Paralytic	—	
Food Poisoning	0.12	
Puerperal Pyrexia	0.06	
Tuberculosis :—Respiratory	0.49	
Meninges and C.N.S.	—	
Other	—	
	Rates per 1,000 live births	
Deaths		
All causes under 1 year of age	21.78	22.2 (*b*)
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	—	
	Maternal Mortality in England and Wales. Rates per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	
Maternal causes, excluding abortion	—	0.32
Due to Abortion	—	0.06
Total Maternal Mortality	—	0.38

(*a*) per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
(*b*) per 1,000 related live births.

Table II.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN WILLENHALL URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1959

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Tuberculosis Respiratory System	3	1	4
Tuberculosis Other	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	1	1	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	1	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	1
Cancer of Stomach	6	5	11
Cancer of Lung, Bronchus	18	—	18
Cancer of Breast	—	4	4
Cancer of Uterus	—	—	—
Cancer all other sites	9	2	11
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1	1
Diabetes	—	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	24	40
Heart Diseases	44	39	83
Other diseases of circulatory system	6	10	16
Influenza	4	2	6
Pneumonia	8	10	18
Bronchitis	20	3	23
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2	3
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	1	3
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	—	3
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	—	3	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	—	6
All other Accidents	3	3	6
Suicide	7	—	7
Homicide and Operations of War	1	—	1
All other causes	18	21	39
All Causes	177	135	312

Table III

QUARTERLY SUMMARY OF DEATHS ARRANGED IN AGE GROUPS

Age Group	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		4th Quarter		Total		Percentage
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Under 1 year	—	5	3	—	1	2	—	1	4	8	3.82
1— 5 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	0.64
5—10 ,,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 ,,	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	0.32
15—25 ,,	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	3	1	1.27
25—35 ,,	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	0.95
35—45 ,,	2	—	1	1	3	1	1	—	7	2	2.87
45—55 ,,	5	1	3	2	7	1	6	2	21	6	8.59
55—65 ,,	16	11	11	9	11	3	12	3	50	26	24.20
65—80 ,,	22	24	11	15	12	4	17	15	62	58	38.22
80 years and over	6	19	4	5	6	5	9	6	25	35	19.11
Total	52	61	35	32	42	16	48	28	177	137	

Table IV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING 1959

Cause of Deaths	Under 1 day	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total deaths under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Atelectasis	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Hydrocephalus	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	2	3	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Broncho Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Accidental Death	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Congenital Deformities	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total	2	5	—	1	—	8	1	1	—	1	11

Table V.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1959 (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS)

Disease	Total	Age Groups—Years											
		Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—35	35—45	45—65	65 & over
Scarlet Fever	6	—	—	1	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	383	13	29	43	47	53	192	5	1	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia	15	1	1	2	—	1	2	—	—	2	1	2	3
Food Poisoning	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Total	413	14	30	46	48	56	197	6	2	5	2	4	3

Table VI.

TUBERCULOSIS

in Willenhall (including the former Short Heath U.D.) showing the new cases notified and the deaths each year since the commencement of compulsory notification

YEAR	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1912	85	—	19	1
1913	87	24	22	13
1914	66	22	21	13
1915	55	11	13	12
1916	65	13	23	11
1917	71	18	28	6
1918	56	8	44	4
1919	29	6	20	7
1920	29	6	14	4
1921	24	—	24	2
1922	55	15	34	7
1923	45	12	30	9
1924	19	5	27	5
1925	67	14	25	10
1926	71	11	24	5
1927	25	12	25	4
1928	39	12	17	3
1929	40	9	34	3
1930	42	3	29	3
1931	36	5	27	1
1932	36	3	16	6
1933	41	11	26	4
1934	45	5	14	5
1935	33	9	25	5
1936	47	5	14	3
1937	44	8	25	6
1938	45	8	22	6
1939	30	7	20	3
1940	40	5	24	3
1941	40	9	25	9
1942	38	7	23	—
1943	49	12	18	3
1944	42	10	19	3
1945	30	4	25	—
1946	35	9	20	1
1947	40	9	20	7
1948	41	3	25	3
1949	34	2	11	—
1950	31	1	12	—
1951	34	3	10	—
1952	32	1	8	2
1953	47	3	9	—
1954	36	1	4	—
1955	26	1	1	—
1956	19	3	4	—
1957	25	2	2	—
1958	17	2	4	—
1959	16	—	4	—

Table VII.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED FROM 1949-1959

Disease	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Scarlet Fever	31	15	42	32	14	35	11	8	7	11	6
Diphtheria	9	6	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	27	21	29	34	12	28	22	11	12	16	15
Erysipelas	8	3	4	3	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	1	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	3	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	2	—	1	1	—	1	2	2	3	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	122	255	239	134	381	21	355	8	372	68	383
Whooping Cough	35	187	58	74	102	15	7	101	20	2	2
Malaria	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	4	—	—	4	3	1	—	—	4
Total	239	492	386	283	515	107	402	135	415	104	413

Table VIII.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1959—ANNUAL REPORT

1.—INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(*i*) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	—	—	—	—
(*ii*) Factories not included in (*i*) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	313	118	9	—
(*iii*) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	313	118	9	—

Table VIII.

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(*a*) Insufficient	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	13	9	—	3	—
(*c*) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	14	10	—	4	—

TABLE IX.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL ROUTINE VISITS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Complaints, requests for visits of Inspectors made to the Health Department	2,537
Primary Inspection of Dwelling Houses	1,868
Revisits	805
Absence of adequate Water Supply or satisfactory Water Supply	6
Drainage	207
Offensive Trades	47
Tents, Vans and Sheds	285
Factories and Workshops	119
Schools	5
Shops (Sanitary Provisions of Shops Acts)	305
Butchers' Premises	91
Rats and Mice	97
Grocers	124
Food Preparation Premises	31
Licensed Premises	93
Fishmongers and Poultry Dealers	7
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	37
Cowsheds and Dairies	1
Ice-Cream Premises	126
Slaughterhouses	849
Market Stalls	344
Restaurants	10
Hawkers	35
Visits to Works in Progress	291
Verminous Premises and Visits regarding disinfestation prior to removal of tenants	203
Infectious Disease	9
Accumulation of Refuse	16
Waste Water Closets and Water Closets	266
Overcrowding	4
Atmospheric Pollution	743
Number of Intimation Notices served	257
Number of Intimation Notices complied with	172
Number of Abatement Notices served	39
Number of Abatement Notices complied with	20

TABLE X.

PRINCIPAL IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED BY COMPLIANCE WITH NOTICES

Dwelling Houses

Internal

Wall and ceiling plaster or brickwork	62
Doors and window frames	76
Defective firegrates	8
Floors	13
Stairs	5
Dampness	11
Dirty conditions	1

External

Roofs	107
Chimneys	7
Eaves guttering and down spouting	41
Drainage	18
Fractured and defective brickwork	23
Pointing	3
Paving	3

Washing Accommodation

Washing boilers	9
Defective sinks	3
Absence of or defective water supply	3

Sanitary Accommodation

Insufficient or defective W.C's.	9
Defective waste water closets	3
Defective cisterns	17

Accumulations	2
Overcrowding	3
Miscellaneous	8
Tents, Vans and Sheds	43

Food Premises—including Butchers, Grocers, Fried Fish Shops, Bakehouses, Licensed Premises.

Internal	
Floors	2
Dirty condition of rooms	12
Impervious surfaces	4
Preparation tables	3
Counters and shelving	3
Artificial light	1
External	
Roofs	1
Washing Accommodation	
Absence of washing facilities	5
Sinks	3
"Wash your Hands" notices	2
Absence of or defective water supply	2
Sanitary Accommodation	
Absence of or defective W.C.	3
Food Storage	2
Provision of First-Aid Equipment	2
Miscellaneous	6

TABLE XI.
UNSOUND FOOD

		Cwts.	*Qrs.*	*Lbs.*
95	Tins Meat	3	2	12
28	,, and Jars Fish			10
179	,, Fruit and Vegetables	1	1	$23\frac{1}{2}$
3	,, Milk and Cream			3
112	,, Soup		3	$21\frac{1}{2}$
		6	0	14

Other foods condemned consisted of Cheese, Sweets, Mincemeat, Plum Pudding, Fats, Steakettes, etc.

1 cwt. 2 qrs. $26\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

Table XI.—*continued*

PARTICULARS OF CARCASES INSPECTED, TOGETHER WITH PARTICULARS OF CARCASES OR PARTS THEREOF CONDEMNED, IN FORM REQUIRED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	550	9	5	4,665	1,585
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	67	—	—	85	25
Percentage of the number inspected affected with all diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci	12.18%	—	—	1.82%	1.57%
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcases condemned	—	1	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	13	—	—	—	31
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.36%	11.1%	20%	—	1.95%
Cysticercosis:					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Weight found to be diseased, unsound and unfit for human consumption :—

	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS		9	1	25½	Offal.
		1	2	4	Carcase Meat
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY		5	2	8	Offal.
		16	2	9½	TOTAL

Table XII.

ICE CREAM SAMPLES FOR THE METHYLENE BLUE TEST

1959	*No. taken*	*Grade* 1	*Grade* 2	*Grade* 3	*Grade* 4
January	—	—	—	—	—
February	—	—	—	—	—
March	10	10	—	—	—
April	8	8	—	—	—
May	—	—	—	—	—
June	15	15	—	—	—
July	8	7	1	—	—
August	17	15	—	1	1
September	14	13	1	—	—
October	8	7	1	—	—
November	9	9	—	—	—
December	—	—	—	—	—
Total	89	84	3	1	1
Taken in 1958	68	59	5	—	4

No. of Ice-Cream Premises registered for sale of Ice-Cream during 1959 11

Premises on register for manufacture or sale of Ice-Cream—
Manufactured by Cold Mix Method 2

No. of shops registered for the sale of Ice-Cream 129

REGISTRATION OF HAWKERS

No. of Hawkers registered during 1959 under the Willenhall Urban District Council Act 1

Table XIII.

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES AND ARTICLES

Number of houses disinfected with Formalin or Formaldehyde 2

Number of houses sprayed with Insecticide to destroy vermin including fleas, bugs, cockroaches, woodworm, mites, etc. :

Private 12

Council 41

Articles disinfected and disinfested—bundles of bedding, etc. 155

TABLE XIV.

SAMPLING BY FOOD AND DRUGS AUTHORITY

(Staffordshire County Council)

List of samples taken during the year 1959 :—

Milk

T.T. (Pasteurised)	5
Pasteurised	8
Sterilised	6
	19 (All Genuine)

General Foods

Number of samples taken	40
Number of samples genuine	36
Number of samples adulterated	4

Classification of General Foods

Quick Short Cut Spaghetti
Shredded Beef Suet (2 samples)
Chocolate Creamed Semolina
Fish Paste—Shrimp
Pork Sausage containing preservative (3 samples)
Puff Pastry
Potted Beef
Potted Beef Paste
Custard Powder (2 samples)
Powdered Jamaican Ginger B.P.
Red Sockeye Salmon
Marmalade
American Cream Soda
Lemon Crystals
Dairy Ice-Cream
Beef Sausage
Pork Sausage
Gruyere Process Cheese
Skinless Pork Sausage
Golden Raising Powder
Rice Pudding made with Full Cream Milk
Stewed Steak and Mushrooms with gravy
Irish Stew (2 samples)
Fruit Lardy Cake
Sponge Drops
Vanilla Ice-Cream
Margarine
Danish Butter
Communion Wine
Dressed Salmon
Strawberries in light syrup
Beef Sausage containing preservative
Casserole Meat
Mincemeat
Soya Flour

Action Taken	
19 C/S—Beef Sausage—Formal—containing undeclared preservative	Notices declaring preservative now being exhibited.
93 C/R–Irish Stew–Informal– contained 30.5% of meat and should have contained 37.5% of meat.	Whole question of meat standards referred to the County Councils Association.
59 C/T — Irish Stew — Formal — 20.8% deficient in meat.	do.
88 C/U—Casserole Meat—Formal—contained 66.8% of meat and should have contained not less than 95.0% of meat.	do.

TABLE XV.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Deposit Gauges situated in Market Place at rear of Gas Offices and in the grounds of Messrs. John Harper & Co. Ltd., Clarkes Lane, Willenhall.

Recordings for the Year 1959

Deposits in tons per square mile

1959	*Market Place*			*J. Harper & Co. Ltd. Clarkes Lane*		
	Insoluble	*Soluble*	*Totals*	*Insoluble*	*Soluble*	*Totals*
January	15.03	50.77	65.8	—	—	—
February	9.7	4.13	13.83	5.10	5.04	10.14
March	17.32	18.13	35.45	17.93	16.40	34.33
April	10.92	17.08	28.0	16.74	14.63	31.37
May	12.53	9.9	22.43	13.71	14.91	28.62
June	9.87	9.94	19.81	10.14	13.89	24.03
July	7.45	4.62	12.07	10.34	4.8	15.14
August	11.12	5.4	16.52	11.68	6.23	17.91
September	7.58	2.76	10.34	5.45	2.48	7.93
October	9.3	10.28	19.58	7.62	10.04	17.66
November	10.31	11.15	21.46	7.89	9.12	17.01
December	9.84	11.52	21.36	8.2	8.17	16.37

Table XVI.

SULPHUR POLLUTION

Lead Peroxide Gauges. Weight of Sulphur Trioxide collected in milligrams per 100 sq. cm. per day

1959	Cemetery, Walsall Road	Memorial Park	126, Dilloways Lane	179, St. Anne's Road	66, Broad Lane	Lodge Farm, Short Heath	Ravens-croft, Lodge Street	145, Pooles Lane	J. Harper & Co. Ltd. Clarkes Lane	204 Lich-field Road	
January	2.98	3.35	3.16	2.49	2.46	3.47	1.94	2.29	1.94	2.08	
February	2.87	2.9	2.41	2.23	1.8	3.33	1.56	1.49	1.62	2.01	
March	2.22	2.46	1.99	1.89	1.35	3.07	1.16	1.6	1.78	1.36	
April	1.05	1.46	1.34	1.22	.85	1.65	.79	.98	1.02	1.06	
May	1.28	1.12	1.13	.94	.87	1.44	.52	.73	.68	.93	
June	.53	.8	.65	.58	.4	.73	.38	.49	.6	.55	
July	.48	.66	.51	.49	.38	.66	.24	.39	.49	.25	
August	.58	.64	.53	.49	.37	.68	.31	.42	.43	.35	
September	1.3	.78	.4	.82	.63	1.37	.73	.55	.53	.57	
October	1.37	1.44	1.26	.81	1.0	1.71	.64	.81	.66	.74	
November.....	2.26	2.51	1.77	1.92	1.81	2.2	1.2	1.32	1.53	1.33	
December	1.94	2.04	1.8	1.34	1.12	2.42	.97	1.17	1.28	1.19	

TOTAL OF DAILY AVERAGES FOR EACH STATION FOR YEARS 1950-1959

											Total for all stations
1950	15.561	21.799	17.638	28.131	15.618	18.415	14.371	13.033	22.807		167.373
1951	14.27	27.85	15.03	24.02	11,665	16.15	12.231	13.571	18.18		152.967
1952	12.068	26.24	13.442	23.71	10.036	14.81	10.896	10.618	15.86		137.680
1953	15.67	29.75	16.36	18.78	12.23	15.80	12.20	13.67	15.57		150.03
1954	16.70	19.40	17.59	18.03	12.67	17.52	12.35	12.71	15.82		142.79
1955	19.05	18.92	15.79	19.18	13.64	17.13	10.97	12.35	13.0	6.26	146.29
1956	20.76	20.36	18.79	20.57	15.43	19.93	12.65	14.77	11.54	12.35	167.15
1957	21.22	16.94	16.86	19.62	13.75	19.52	11.45	14.11	12.04	11.51	157.02
1958	17.61	18.80	16.35	16.94	13.77	20.46	11.43	13.50	11.85	12.55	153.26
1959	18.86	20.16	16.95	15.22	13.04	22.73	10.44	12.24	12.56	12.42	154.62

Table XVII.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 9 months ended 31st December, 1959

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All other (including business premises)	Total	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	10	9,200	1,000	10,210	5
2. Number of properties inspected	3	356	232	591	5
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	30	1,194	430	1,654	5
4. Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested with :—					
Rats	2	108	23	133	
Mice	1	47	9	57	
5. Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority	3	155	32	190	
6. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	8	163	59	230	
7. Number of notices served under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following issue of notice	—	—	—	—	—
9. Legal proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
10. Number of 'block' control schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

River Tame

Number of visits 14

Number of pre-baits laid 588

Number of poison baits laid 330